



Friday, November 28, 2008

Stakeholder Technology Branch Staffing Update

Angie Tarasoff is joining Stakeholder Technology Branch (STB) as Senior Manager, Technology Planning and Management. Angie has served in various consulting and team leadership roles in the information technology field for the past fifteen years, including five years as the Manager of Data Projects for Edmonton Catholic Schools. More recently, she has worked with STB on the investigation and business case development of a range of technologies and associated implementation practices, as well as coordinating provincial Microsoft licensing.

Angie's background in project management, understanding of school environments, and work with stakeholders will be a great asset to helping jurisdictions enhance teaching and learning through the use of technology. In addition to leading STB's ongoing investigations of emerging technologies, she will be working with stakeholders to develop a School Technology Services Framework that will assist jurisdictions in the planning and management of the increasing number and complexity of technologies in schools and districts.

Angie can be contacted at Angie.Tarasoff@gov.ab.ca or by phone at 780-427-0253.

Jurisdiction Technology Contacts (JTC) Event

On November 21, 2008, 151 educational technology leaders, including 20 school principals, attended Alberta Education's JTC Event in Edmonton. Sessions included:

- An opening plenary titled "Education in the Digital Age" by Cheryl Lemke, President and CEO of the Metiri Group. Slides from the presentation can be viewed at <http://www.metiri.com/presentations/CalgaryFall08.html>
- Current initiatives, including the Emerge One-to-One Laptop Learning initiative, Technology and High School Success initiative, and Distributed Learning Strategy;
- Leadership strategies, including Innovative Learning in Innovative Classrooms, Principal Leadership, and Excellence in IT Leadership;
- Information on the School Technology Services Framework, How to Use the Government of Alberta SuperNet Videoconferencing Services, 2Learn.ca and the Videoconference Regional Leads Network, Revised CTS Program Implications, and the new LearnAlberta.ca website.

For more information please contact Lynda Burgess at Lynda.Burgess@gov.ab.ca or by phone at 780-415-8995.

The next JTC Event will be held in Edmonton on May 13, 2009. This event is open to Jurisdiction Technology Contacts only.

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Send your questions, suggestions, or article submissions to tech.news@gov.ab.ca.

Next edition: December 2008

LINKS:

[Alberta Education website - Technology section](#)

[LearnAlberta.ca website](#)

[Emerge One-to-One Laptop Learning initiative website](#)

[Technology and High School Success initiative website](#)

Speak Out - Alberta Student Engagement Initiative

The official launch of the Speak Out student engagement initiative took place on November 26, 2008 at Harry Ainlay School in Edmonton. Speak Out will encourage Alberta youth with diverse backgrounds and experiences to share their perspectives on the education system both online and in person.

The Speak Out interactive website, www.speakout.alberta.ca, allows Alberta's youth to share their thoughts, opinions and experiences with peers and with Alberta Education. This website includes fully moderated discussion boards, a blog, and information on the Annual Student Conference and the Minister's Student Advisory Council. In the short time this website has been active, youth have already taken the opportunity to share their experiences and offer peer-to-peer support on subjects such as what's happening in school, teaching that works for them, what is causing them stress and bullying.

The Speak Out initiative will bring together 200 youth from across Alberta at the Annual Student Conference on Education. This event will take place on May 3 and 4, 2009, in Edmonton.

For more information on the Speak Out Student Engagement Initiative, contact Jennifer Keller at Jennifer.Keller@gov.ab.ca or by phone at 780-422-0390.

Excellence in IT/ICT Leadership: Building Blocks to the Future

Dr. Maurice Hollingsworth from the University of Lethbridge conducted a research study examining IT leadership in Alberta. The study was supported by grant funding from Alberta Education. The research focused on three school jurisdictions that were identified by superintendents and IT directors from across the province as demonstrating excellence in IT/ICT leadership. In the final report that has just been released, Dr. Hollingsworth describes characteristics common to effective IT leadership in school jurisdictions.

Dr. Hollingsworth's complete report can be accessed on the Alberta Education website by clicking here.

For more information on the report, contact Brad Clarke, Education Manager, at Bradley.Clarke@gov.ab.ca or by phone at 780-427-0246.

Leadership in Information Technology in Education Program

Leaders of Information Technology in Education

The Faculty of Education, University of Lethbridge is now offering a Master of Education with a specialization in leadership for information technology in education. The plethora of technologies, media, software and the Internet present an infinity of new opportunities for leadership, teaching and learning. Students need opportunity to access 21st Century learning. Leaders need to guide this educational transformation. Recent research suggests a need for deeper levels of leadership in this area for both districts and schools and identifies exemplar leadership characteristics in this domain. The proposed program will enable candidates to undertake this task and provide leadership at the district, school or classroom level.

Plans are tentative with room for student input!

Possible Time Line--July 2009 to April 2012

Location--Subject to Student Enrolment

Mode of Delivery--Combination of face-to-face (two weeks of summer school in Lethbridge) and distance delivery.

Instructional Domains – three domains of instruction are identified as important for district and school leaders in technology integration: depth of knowledge of the field of education, deep knowledge of information technology and knowledge of leadership to effectively integrate technologies.

Curriculum—four core courses in research, curriculum, professional learning and foundations in education tailored to focus on leadership for information technology, four specialization courses specifically designed to examine aspects of leadership for information technology, a practicum or internship, other related courses and a culmination activity (capstone, project or thesis).

Costs in accordance with University regulations for Master of Education degree.

Please pass this information on to friends and colleagues

At this time, we are seeking an indication of interest in such a program. If this is of interest to you, please send an indication of your interest by responding to the brief inquiry at <http://www.uleth.ca/survey/int>. If you have difficulty accessing the web inquiry or have questions or comments, please contact Joyce Ito at joyce.ito@uleth.ca

Tools4Teachers Update

New Resources

The following courses have recently been posted to the Tools4Teachers site:

- Mathematics 4
- Social Studies 8
- Social Studies 10-1
- Social Studies 10-2
- Biology 20
- Chemistry 20
- Physics 20
- Biology 30 Field-Test Version
- Chemistry 30 Field-Test Version
- Physics 30 Field-Test Version

The Tools4Teachers website can be accessed at <http://www.tools4teachers.ca/>. Login and password access to Tools4Teachers have been distributed province-wide to schools in September. This access information has been e-mailed to school administrators for distribution to teachers as requested. To receive a password, contact your school administrator.

For more information, contact Lori Ristoff at Lori.Ristoff@gov.ab.ca or by phone at 780-674-8719.

LearnAlberta.ca Update

New and Updated Resources on <http://new.learnalberta.ca>

Social Studies Resources

Athenian Democracy

Democracy and its origins in ancient Athens are explored in this video. The Athenian concept of citizenship, contemporary political structures and government decision making processes are discussed in detail. (Requires Sign-In)

Understanding Local Government: Council – What Does it Do?

There are a variety of sources of municipal funding in Canada. This video reviews local government responsibility for collecting taxes, user fees and administering provincial grants to deliver services. (Requires Sign-In)

Understanding Local Government: Getting Involved

This video outlines opportunities for citizens to participate in local government by communicating with their

representatives, through public consultations and voluntary committee work. (Requires Sign-In)

Understanding Local Government: Revenue and Spending

There are a variety of sources of municipal funding in Canada. This video reviews local government responsibility for collecting taxes, user fees and administering provincial grants to deliver services. (Requires Sign-In)

The Great Bear Rainforest Virtual Tour

After years of protests and pressure in the marketplace the British Columbia forestry industry was prompted to negotiate agreements with environmental organizations, First Nations groups and other stakeholders. This digital slideshow was produced by The Rainforest Solutions Project to promote awareness of and involvement in the movement to conserve the Great Bear Rainforest, the largest coastal temperate rainforest in the world. (Requires Sign-In)

The Story of the Great Bear Rainforest

This program documents the controversy surrounding conservation of the Great Bear Rainforest in British Columbia. Stakeholders came together after years of clear-cut logging, protests and conflict to negotiate agreements framed by ecosystem-based management. The video also refers to the remaining challenges to successfully implementing the solutions. (Requires Sign-In)

Aboriginal Studies Resources

Aboriginal Studies: Aboriginal Arts Journey (this resource is also under Social Studies)

Explore the work and words of Aboriginal artists (writers, painters, musicians, dancers) and Elders from across Alberta and the Northwest Territories. Students can discover artwork, legends, artefacts and interviews to enhance their understandings of the diversity of Aboriginal cultural expression. The locations of First Nations communities, Métis settlements and historic sites are among the features of an interactive map. (Requires Sign-In)

Second Language Resources

Bonjour les amis (added scenario 5)

Scenario 5 has been added to this interactive digital resource that supports elements of the Grade 4 and Grade 5 French as a Second Language Nine-year Program of Studies. The Bonjour les amis! resource provides presentation, practice and production activities. Each scenario starts with an animation that presents new linguistic and cultural content. Follow-up activities involve listening and reading as well as pronunciation, writing and speaking.

Mathematics

Math planning guides for grade 8

Seven planning guides for grade 8 Mathematics have been launched. These are step-by-step guides to assist teachers with planning mathematics instruction.

Physics

Pearson Physics 20

This resource contains the electronic version of the Physics 20 textbook, *Physics*, published by Pearson Education Canada. The electronic textbook addresses the following units: Kinematics; Dynamics; Circular Motion, Work, and Energy; and Oscillatory Motion and Mechanical Waves. This resource contains the electronic version of the Physics 20 textbook *Physics*, published by Pearson Education Canada. The electronic textbook addre... (Requires Sign In)

Pearson Physics 30

This resource contains the electronic version of the Physics 30 textbook, *Physics*, published by Pearson Education Canada. The electronic textbook addresses the following units: Momentum and Impulse; Forces and Fields; Electromagnetic Radiation; and Atomic Physics. This resource contains the electronic version of the Physics 30 textbook *Physics*, published by Pearson Education Canada. The electronic textbook addre... (Requires Sign In)

French Language Resources

Mathématiques

Aquamath 3 (in English Math 3: Under the Sea) (6 lessons in French):

En utilisant la méthode de l'algorithme traditionnel, l'élève apprend à additionner des nombres de deux et de trois chiffres, d'abord sans regrouper, puis en regroupant, à l'aide de matériel de manipulation, de diagrammes et de symboles.

Employer l'argent

L'élève fait des achats et apprend à rendre la monnaie sur des sommes ne dépassant pas 10 dollars. L'élève fait des achats et apprend à rendre la monnaie sur des sommes ne dépassant pas 10 dollars.

Compter l'argent

L'élève explore la valeur de l'argent en estimant, en comptant, en lisant et en notant des sommes représentées par des pièces et des billets. Il est également appelé à lire et à écrire des sommes selon les deux systèmes de notation pertinents. L'élève explore la valeur de l'argent en estimant, en comptant, en lisant et en notant des sommes représentées par des pièces et des billets. Il est é...

Notation des nombres

L'élève est appelé à lire, à écrire et à reconnaître des nombres exprimés en notation normale et en notation développée. L'élève est appelé à lire, à écrire et à reconnaître des nombres exprimés en notation normale et en notation développée.

Comparer et ordonner des nombres

L'élève rivalise avec l'ordinateur en tentant de constituer des nombres de trois chiffres qui sont plus grands que ceux que produit l'ordinateur. L'élève est ensuite appelé à mettre les nombres qu'il a constitués dans l'ordre, du plus grand au plus petit ou du plus petit au plus grand. L'élève rivalise avec l'ordinateur en tentant de constituer des nombres de trois chiffres qui sont plus grands que ceux que produit l'ordinateur. L'él...

Valeur de position

L'élève est appelé à lire, à écrire et à reconnaître des nombres exprimés en notation normale et en notation développée.

Science**Microscope Virtuel 20** (in English: Virtual Microscope 20) (French)

Le microscope virtuel présente une collection de lames, visionnée à l'aide d'un microscope optique, de spécimens biologiques tels que : artères, sang, capillaires, veines, feuilles, et tissus des reins, des poumons, des muscles et du pancréas. L'utilisateur peut régler le grossissement, naviguer autour de la lame, indiquer les structures individuelles à l'aide d'un pointeur et mesurer les dimensions avec une règle. L'utilisateur peut aussi imprimer les images. Le microscope virtuel présente une collection de lames, visionnée à l'aide d'un microscope optique, de spécimens biologiques tels que : artères, sang,...

Microscope Virtuel 30 (in English: Virtual Microscope 30) (French)

Le microscope virtuel présente une collection de lames, visionnée à l'aide d'un microscope optique, de spécimens biologiques tels que : cervelet, chromosome, embryon, ovaire de chatte, pancréas humain, tissu cutané humain, sperme humain, moelle épinière de chat, testicule humain, thyroïde humaine, mitose dans une pointe de racine d'oignon, et mitose dans une corégon. L'utilisateur peut régler le grossissement, naviguer autour de la lame, indiquer les structures individuelles à l'aide d'un pointeur et mesurer les dimensions avec une règle. L'utilisateur peut aussi imprimer les images.

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